

REMARKS

Claims 2-5, 7, 11, and 13-17 are pending. Claims 1, 6, 8-10, 12, and 18-20 have been canceled. The applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Paragraph 1 of the office action included claim 5 in the list of withdrawn claims. However, claim 5 was one of the claims that is readable on the elected species, and claim 5 was examined. Therefore, the inclusion of claim 5 in this list is considered to be an error.

Claims 21 and 22 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were said to be allowable if written in independent form. Claims 21 and 22 have been written in independent form including all the limitations of their base claims. Therefore, claims 21 and 22 are considered to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-5, 7, 10, 11, and 13-17 were rejected under one of 35 USC 102(b) and 35 USC 103(a). Claims 1 and 10 have been canceled and thus will not be discussed. Claims 2-5, 7, 11, and 13-17 are now dependent on one of claims 21 and 22, which were said to include allowable subject matter. Therefore, claims 2-5, 7, 11, and 13-17 are considered to be in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing, the applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance. A timely notice to that effect is respectfully requested. If questions arise, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone.

If there are any problems with the payment of fees, please charge any underpayments and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1147.

Respectfully submitted,

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